

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 09306 111303Z

53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 W

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P 110650Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1508

INFO AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JAPAN PRIORITY

CG MARCORB CAMP BUTLER OKINAWA JAPAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9306

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: ARREST OF TWO JOURNALISTS BY MARINE MP'S

REF: COMUSJAPAN 020716Z JUL 75

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. FOLLOWING TECHNICAL JUDICIAL RESOLUTION OF INCIDENT AS OUTLINED REFTEL, DCM WAS CALLED IN BY AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRGEN YAMAZAKI TO CONSULT ABOUT POLITICAL DENOUEMENT FOR AFFAIR. YAMAZAKI READ FOLLOWING STATEMENT WHICH GOJ PLANS USE AS BASIS OF ANY RESPONSES IT MAY HAVE TO MAKE IN FUTURE DIET SESSION CONCERNING INCIDENT:

BEGIN TEXT QTE WITH REGARD TO THE INCIDENT OF APPREHENSION AND DETENTION OF TWO CIVILIANS BY TWO MP'S, WHICH HAPPENED ON MAY 24 AT THE OUTSIDE OF CAMP FOSTER ON OKINAWA, THE NAHA DISTRICT PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ANNOUNCED ON JULY 23 THAT IT WOULD NOT INDICT THOSE MP'S.

HOWEVER, AS IS RECOGNIZED BY THE NAHA DISTRICT PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, THE CONDUCT OF THOSE MP'S TO APPREYAKD AND DETAIN THOSE CIVILIANS WAS, IN FACT, A DEVIATION FROM THE POLICE RIGHT OF THE US FORCES GRANTED BY THE STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT. THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN STRONGLY EXPRESSES ITS REGRET TO THE GOVERN-

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09306 111303Z

MENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND REQUESTS THAT THE US PARTIES CONCERNED

TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES FOR THE STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF SUCH A REGRETABLE INCIDENT. UNQTE END TEXT.

2. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION THE TWO SIDES AGREED AD REFERENDUM ON A STATEMENT CONCERNING THE INCIDENT WHICH US SIDE WOULD MAKE. TEXT FOLLOWS:

QTE MR. SHOESMITH TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF THE VIEWS OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND AGAIN EXPRESSED REGRET THAT THE INCIDENT HAD OCCURRED. HE SAID THAT THIS INCIDENT POINTED UP THE NEED FOR CAREFUL REVIEW OF US MILITARY PROCEDURES IN COOPERATION WITH JAPANESE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO PREVENT RECURRENCE OF SUCH INCIDENTS. UNQTE.

3. DURING MEETING DCM EMPHASIZED, AND YAMAZAKI AGREED, THAT ANYTHING GOJ MIGHT SAY IN THIS REGARD SHOULD NOT IMPLY THAT US HAD EXPRESSED REGRET FOR SOFA VIOLATION, SINCE WE DID NOT RPT NOT AGREE THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SOFA VIOLATION. LATER, AFTER EMBASSY SECURED USFJ CONCURRENCE WITH STATEMENT AND GAVE FINAL PERMISSION FOR ITS USE TO FONOFF, FONOFF REITERATED ITS INTENTION ONLY TO USED STATEMENT IN CASE IT WAS REQUIRED IN DIET AND TO ADHERE FAITHFULLY TO LANGUAGE THEREIN.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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